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COUNTRY East Germany

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO. TOPIC Soviet Troop Trains in GeraEVALUATION  25X1A

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT  25X1ADATE OBTAINED  DATE PREPARED 30 October 1953

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REFERENCES

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REMARKS

SOURCE 

1. Troop trains passing through the Gera railroad station between 9 and 13 October 1953 included:

9 October. A train carrying 10 guns, 10 caterpillar tractors and 15 motor vehicles; and including 9 boxcars, coming from the direction of Glauchau and proceeding toward Grossschwabhausen.

12 October. A train carrying 6 x 100-mm AT guns, 6 caterpillar tractors and 14 motor vehicles; and including 3 boxcars, coming from the direction of Altenburg and bound for Grossschwabhausen. A train carrying 11 T-34/85 tanks, 1 machine gun carrier and 12 motor vehicles; and including 8 boxcars, coming from the direction of Goessnitz and proceeding toward Erfurt.

A train carrying 4 guns, 4 caterpillar tractors, 8 machine gun carriers, 10 motorcycles and 45 motor vehicles, including  and including 9 boxcars, coming from the direction of Goessnitz and proceeding toward Erfurt. 25X1B

- 25X1B 13 October. A train carrying 11 JSU-122 guns, 1 machine gun carrier, 12 motor vehicles,  coming from the direction of Glauchau and proceeding toward Erfurt.

2. Troop trains passing through the Gera railroad station on 16 October coming from the direction of Erfurt and proceeding toward Plauen included: A train carrying 12 T-34/85 tanks and 14 motor vehicles and including 8 boxcars.

A train carrying 9 T-34/85 tanks, including  1 machine gun carrier, and 13 motor vehicles; and including 8 boxcars, at 4 p.m. 25X1B

A train carrying 11 JSU-122 guns and 14 motor vehicles; and including 8 boxcars.

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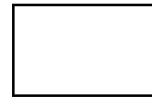
A train carrying 5 x 120-mm mortars, 8 x 57-mm AT guns and 42 motor vehicles,  and including 19 boxcars.

A train carrying 4 JSU-122 guns, 2 x 57-mm AT guns, 4 field kitchens and 12 motor vehicles; and including 22 boxcars.

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3. The following military shipments, which arrived from the direction of Saalfeld, were unloaded at the Gera railroad station on 17 and 18 October:

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17 October. At 11:45 a.m., 28 x 100-mm AT guns, 40 caterpillar tractors and 20 boxcars, which had arrived under shipment-record

18 October. At 2 a.m., 12 x 100-mm AT guns, 8 other guns, 25 caterpillar tractors about 18 boxcars.

At 11 a.m., 9 x 100-mm AT guns, 12 caterpillar tractors, about 20 motor vehicles, including [redacted] and 11 boxcars.

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At 4 p.m., 16 x 100-mm AT guns, 25 caterpillar tractors, 17 motor vehicles, including [redacted] and 12 boxcars.<sup>4</sup>

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- 25X1A 1. [redacted] Comment. The shipments observed tend to indicate that the artillery brigades of the Eighth Gds Army from Altenburg and the 220th Hv Tank SF Regt from Glauchau participated in the fall maneuvers in the Jena-Weimar area. As, according to previous reports, the maneuvers terminated on 15 October, the shipments on 16 October mentioned in this report probably involved the above mentioned units returning to their posts.

- 25X1A 2. [redacted] Comment. The troops detained in Gera are rather safely believed to have belonged to the 308th Arty Brig (US), which presumably also participated in the fall maneuvers. The total number of guns observed corresponds to the equipment of this brigade, however, the brigade is believed assigned only 24 x 100-mm AT guns.

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Information from Potsdam and Fuerstenwalde

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A DATE PREPARED 30 October 1953

REFERENCES 1

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE [REDACTED] 25X1X

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1. Between 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. on 11 October 1953, 8 trucks towing 120-mm mortars, 8 trucks towing 76.2-mm field guns with muzzle brake, about 12 trucks towing 76.2-mm field guns without muzzle brake, about 10 jeeps, mostly with antennas, about 6 signal vehicles and about 25 trucks occupied by troops were seen passing through Fuerstenwalde, coming from the direction of Braunsdorferchaussee and proceeding toward Trebus. [REDACTED] 25X1B

25X1B [REDACTED] 25X1B

2. At 11:55 p.m. on 12 October, a column of about 30 trucks, including 8 carrying one pontoon each and the other trucks loaded with beams and logs and 1 motorboat were seen leaving the Pionier Kaserne on Gartenstrasse, Fuerstenwalde, proceeding toward Berkenbrueck.

3. At 6 p.m. on 14 October, 4 trucks, each towing 1 x 85-mm AA gun, and 5 trucks, each occupied by about 25 soldiers, were seen on the Spreebruecke (bridge), proceeding toward Trebus. [REDACTED] 25X1B

25X1B [REDACTED] 25X1B

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4. Prior to 12:15 p.m. on 19 October, 8 x 122-mm or 152-mm field guns, 8 Z-65 prime movers, [REDACTED] 12 trucks, [REDACTED] 25X1B

25X1B [REDACTED]; and an undetermined number of troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were unloaded from a train of 20 flatcars with sideracks and 10 boxcars at the Potsdam railroad station.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. According to previous reports by these and other sources, units of the 7th Gds Mecz Div were assumed to have held exercises in the Fuerstenwalde area, which, according to information in the present report, probably were conducted north and east of the post. The fact that engineer units, probably the 122d Gds Engr Bn, participated in the exercise, tends to indicate that the exercise included a crossing of the Spree River. According to weapons seen, elements of the division from Frankfurt/Oder and Beeskow may also have participated in the practice.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. Probably a shipment of units of the 34th Arty Div (US) which, according to reports on transportation, probably arrived from Halle on train

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[REDACTED], coming from the fall maneuvers of the Eighth Gds Army.

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